

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 2, paragraph 1 with the following paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED CASES

*approved for entry
B2
11/24/09*

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/944,283, filed on August 30, 2001, ^{pending,} which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/738,282, filed on December 14, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,532,323 B2, which is a continuation of Serial No. 09/426,060, filed October 22, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,266,462 B1, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/022,413, filed February 12, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,021,237, which claims priority to Korean Application No. 97-24796, filed June 6, 1997, now Korean Patent No. 10-0265865.

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 8 with the following paragraph:

[0065] The effect of the acoustic waves in the interaction length 37 is that the intensity of selected wavelengths of light traveling through the interaction length 37 is attenuated by coupling these wavelengths from a mode in the core into one or more modes in the cladding layer 32 of the interaction length 37. This coupling creates a notch in the transmission spectrum centered at each selected wavelength. By changing the frequency of the applied electrical signal, and thus the frequency of the acoustic waves in the interaction length 37, the center wavelength of the notch can be altered. Furthermore, by changing the magnitude of the applied voltage (and thereby the magnitude of the acoustic wave), the depth of the notch (representing the amount of

light coupled to the other mode) can be changed. By cascading multiple acoustic exciter/interaction length combinations and/or applying multiple acoustic frequencies with each exciter, a combination of notches of different optical center frequencies and depths may be achieved, thereby allowing creation of a desired filter transfer-function as described in Serial No. 09/738,282, now U.S. Patent No. 6,532,323 B2. Such a filter may be employed for gain equalization purposes. Those skilled in the art will recognize that, as an alternative to coupling light between core and cladding modes, an AOTF may also couple light between different core modes. Further details of the functioning of the filter 120 are described in U.S. Patent No. 6,266,462 referenced above.